

A

8145.0.
15

VINDICATION

OF THE

Irish Earl of Bath;

[London: 1755.]

Occasion of the groundless Imputations, malevolent Insinuations, and unmannerly Expostulations of a pretended QUAKER:

In ANSWER to said

QUAKER'S Letters, &c.



D U B L I N:

Printed in the Year MDCC LV.

[Price Two-pence.]

MCITABRICK

Just Published,

[Price Three-pence.]

A FEW

THOUGHTS

ON THE

State of IRISHMAN

Present Posture of Affairs

IN

IRELAND

DUBLIN



A

VINDICATION OF THE

Irish Earl of Bath.

T is not the Argument, Sense, or Smartness, that are contained in your truly familiar Epistles, any Shew of Reason, Capacity for writing, that might challenge Notice of a reasonable Person, which have induced me to answer your importunate Demands, but pure Charity to you and your ~~associates~~; that (if possible) I may shew you how much you are mistaken, when you flatter yourselves that an Handful of Men, who know rightly what Spirit they are of, shall be able to communicate their Madness to the People, and infect them with Sentiments destructive to the Public.

It is a certain Consequence of intestine Divisions, that the least considerable, who are engaged in them, should be always the most pretending, the loudest in Clamour, and fiercest in Demands; and when they have lent but little Help to support the *Cause*, are ever the most forward to lay claim to the Success, and rate their Pretensions above the Standard of those, who, by their Weight and Abilities have happily brought it to the wished for Issue. The Cause is obvious, and the Effect unavoidable. The *first* have nothing but the End they aim at, in Contemplation, equal ignorant of the *Means* to compass it, and when, or how, they may be used successfully. The *last* are aware of the Difficulties in the Way, the Steps to be taken, and how far they may proceed with just Hope, or Probability of Success. Hence it comes, that when Men have done a great deal, these naturally wonder they have not done more; whilst others who can better discern the Lets and Rubs that lie in the Way of all public Proceeding wonder, on the other Hand, they could do so much, and carry their Designs so smoothly into Execution.

Should you ask me, *Friend*, what were the *Designs* of those who, you own, have defended our Rights in dangerous *Conjunctions*, and what were the principal Points they had in View, when they abandoned their *private*, for the *public* Interest, I can so answer, as to tell you what it was every reasonable Person expected from them; and when I have so done, will leave it to any one to judge (as Time shall disclose it) how these Expectations have been answered, and what more could be reasonably desired.

For Method's Sake, and to enable you to range your Ideas in some Order, (in which, the Way, you are extremely defective) shall distinguish the *first* from the *secondary* objects to be obtained, the principal Dangers we had to fear from the lesser Evils we apprehended, in order to form the clearer notion of the Condition we are left in, when it shall be better known what Terms have been made for us, and what Dangers have been removed.

The first Danger to be encountered, and which so much has been said and written,

that I need say nothing of it here, previous Consent. For two Sessions it hung over us, and we dreaded the Approach of it again.

The second, by necessary Connexion, that of continuing the same Persons in Government, who had laboured to establish it, and make it a necessary Part of Constitution.

The last of these Evils is certainly moved; and the other is dropped, in Speech from the Throne, never (as we told) to be resumed again.

So far our Friends have taken Care of And next, in Order, comes Redress of Grievances, which consisted in an Attempt to alter the Constitution, which, though it did not succeed, was attended with many Mischiefs. And next, in displacing the Gentlemen we opposed it. In the last Point again we redressed, and, as to the other, I am clear in asserting that it is impossible to redress in the true Sense of the Word; that we have Amends made us for the Injuries, publick and private, which were

ere, we brought us by the Endeavours of *Men*, who
 it had introduced and abetted that Scheme; and I
 approach, with you, a Censure might be passed
 on all who deserve it on that Account, that
 may remain, as you say, *a Terror to evil*
 xion, w^{rs}; but when, or how, it is to be done,
 ns in am as little able as you are to advise, any
 o estab^lther than as I think it has been done
 rt of ready, by reversing every Thing our late
 w^rov^{rn}or did, in order to accomplish his
 rtainly signs. Silent Censure is always the se-
 ed, in felt; and (though People of your *Sort* and
 as we *Education* can express their Resentments no
 Care of er Way than by Noise and foul-mouthed
 Redress. (ling) sinks deeper than any other in the
 Attempt minds of those who can distinguish between
 it did Reproach and calm, and (therefore ge-
 y Mischi- tally) just Indignation.

And this I address to all, in general, into
 those Hands this Paper may fall, that they
 may reflect, if they please, on the Advan-
 tages arising to their Country from the late
 I am V position; and consider with themselves,
 osible to ther, a Year ago, they had not been
 e Word; to have secured so much; and to have
 for the relieved from the Dread of having *Power*
 which w^ranted in the same Channel against them;

which they found, by Experience, it was hard to resist, and which, by continuing in the same Hands, or in *Persons* of the like Dispositions, might, one Time or other, have overpowered their *Defenders*.

To yourself, in particular, I would willingly give an Answer, were it possible to collect from your disjointed Periods, any uniform Design, or consistent Expectation, which you or your Knot of *Associates*, may entertain; but as that, I think, passes human Skill, I may guess your Meaning, as it appears obscure in furious Starts of idle Clamour, and untempered Zeal.

Zeal for what! It is not for Government on any Plan whatever. It is not for Peace, for that you renounce till the Enemy be utterly destroyed, *stricken to the Earth, that never to rise again*. Were you less a *Man of Arms*, and had any Sort of Wit to take Place in your Anger, you would control yourself, and think you had done abundantly enough, when you had not only *put by* your *Adversary's Thrust*, but *put him also to Flight*; enough for Honour, and sufficient Safety. The weakest Enemy may be de-

dangerous when driven to Despair; and to pursue him to a strong *Hold* may testify Courage, but is no Symptom of Sense. You may remember, for I see you have been in the Hands of a *Fencing-master*, a *Frenchman*, who taught the small Sword in *Taylor's-Hall*, and gave Lessons of Prudence, as well as Science, to his Scholars. Here you shall attack, and here be on Guard; so far advance, and then stand firm; with all the Variety to be known of defensive and offensive Knowledge. A Gentleman, one of the most finished in the obscure School, wanted, he conceived, to learn but one Thing more to render him absolute in the Art of War, which was, how to advance on a flying Enemy? "Advance!" said the *Frenchman*, "For what? *by gar* let him go." If ever you learn't, you have now forgot the *Rule*; and when the Enemy has been parried, wounded, and forced on a retreat, you would, in your Fool-hardiness, make him rally again, and, like an infinite number of Generals on Record, perhaps lose the Honour of the Day you had won.

But you talk much of *Precedents*, Precedents for *Addresses*, and Precedents for *Op-
y be di-
gero-* p-
sion

apprehend)

apprehend) from some Concessions have been made; and indeed the Sum total of all your Fears are comprehended in that single Article. Neither you, nor any one else, can complain of any other Point unprovided for or any other Danger likely to ensue from the supposed Agreement has been made.

Now, if these *Concessions* be Precedents they are very imperfect ones, and may more probably, should they be pleaded as such be rejected another Day, than was the Precedent you mention of 51 pleaded *Anno 53* they are less like Precedents than that was though that was but a Shadow of one. just Precedent is something done with mutual Approbation, or, at least, is an Act of Authority on one Side, and acquiesced in the other. But it is manifest we have not acquiesced under the Oppressions were laid upon us, nor did we acquiesce at the Time, but made a laudable Outcry enough, and may it be heard far and near; and will, doubtless, on a like Occasion, be as ready to put up our Voice again; though I must say, that all Appearances concur to make us hope Occasion is far off. As to the other Precedent of sending over the *Address* before

(b) (b) (b) (b)

been for Approbation (as you assert was done) I
 you can say nothing but this, that whether it
 e Ar was so or not is Matter of perfect Indif-
 ference, and, should it always be done, can
 ed for have no other ill Effect, than lavishing some
 om the Money on special Messengers; for it is not
 now, or where, the Thing was *cooked* (to
 se your own Phrase) that Men consider so
 cedents much, as how they like what is served up.
 ay more had the famous *Clu* cooked it, (though they
 as such his Hand is out) yet if the *Commons*
 e Precedents did not relish it, the Labour were lost,
 anno 53 and the Dish would be thrown out of Doors.

one. But *apropos* of Precedents, I will tell you
 th mutu worse than any you have named; that of
 et of A gratitude to our Defenders, not to say our
 eed in P protectors. In what a Plight had we been,
 have n and the Persons you clamour at hid their
 ere laid heads in the Day of Danger, and sheltered
 Time, b from the Pestilence that walked at
 and ma on-Day. Had they not interposed, like
 will, dou bly Clouds between the *Sun* and us, to
 ready to d us from the Beams we could not bear,
 st say, t had been burnt up ere now; and, instead
 us hope Thanks, shall we repay them with Re-
 other Pre- mises, and forget every Act of Kindness
 before-h they have done us, because there is some-
 thing

thing we still desire they should have done? This is like the Fellow was fished out of the *Liffey* by a Gentleman, who ventured his Life to save him, and, missing his Hat, desired his generous Friend would go in again to recover it, and d—d him for refusing.

How should we expect, on any future Conjunction of *Power* and *Misrule*, when the People are oppressed, and can do nothing for themselves, that Men of Fortune, and Pretensions to the highest Favours their King can bestow, should endanger both to relieve us from Distress, if we not only with-hold all the Acknowledgments we can give in Return for their Services, but revile them worse than we ever did our Oppressors? Then (to use your ill applied Language) we shall cry, and there will be none to help. They will shake their Heads, and laugh us to Scorn. Reproach, when we look for Approval, is, of all Things, the most likely to alienate Men's Affections, and, no doubt, would have that Effect, did it come from any Man, or considerable Body of them, who have a Right to judge or to advise; but forgive me, if I think you are not in this Predicament, nor does it appear from an

Thing you have said of yourself. Suppose (as you tell us) you have been employed, for three Years, in drinking Healths on every joyful Occasion, and in making ungodly Ballads *; does that entitle you to give Law to those now, whose spirited Acts were then the Subject of your Song, and their Health and Prosperity the Object of your Wishes? You admired them greatly, when they were exposing their Lives for you, to Perils by Land, *and Perils by Sea*, and, perhaps, (but I hope otherwise) to Perils among false Brethren; but now that you have failed in some favourite Expectation, secretly settled among your *Eutopian Friends*, they have done, it seems, no Service at all either to you or the Publick.

By their Means it has been, with the Favour of Providence, that the principal Dangers which alarmed us are no more: Our Constitution remains unhurt, and the Invaders of it are laid aside. The Assertors of Right and Liberty are restored to the Rank they held, and we are no longer desirous of their *useful Mediation* with our Prince,

* See Letter, p. 1.

Prince, and those in Authority under him; so that Discontents must arise from private Causes, whatever Disguise, or Pretence to publick Zeal is put on.

As I am not a Master of the same Dialect you use, I cannot reply to you in the Stile which would suit you; but must tell you, the affected Phrase of your personated Character always to be suspected, and always discover a Diffidence in the Writer, that what he offers to the Publick would not merit the Observation without a Singularity of Design which is oftener the Effect of Foppery than good Sense; and though the *Manners* of the *People* may claim an Indulgence when they are only familiar, yet they are the more unpardonable, when, under that Allowance, they degenerate to Sawciness and Scurrility. If I could suppose (as I do not, on observing the Complexion of Things) that you would again produce *your strong Reasons*, I desire you will write like other People, if you hope to be replied to; and that you do not disgrace any particular *Tribe*, by assuming their Air and Appearance.

And lastly, as a Friend, I recommend one Consideration, that *Zeal* without Knowledge, and without Bounds, hurts the Owner, and no one else; and that over-zealous Party-men may be compared to *Fire-ships*, which, though they but sometimes burn the *Enemy*, never fail to consume *themselves*.

27.49

F I N I S.



Day 5

On the 5th of October I was in the
country of the Amazons, and
had a long talk with one of
them. She said that the
country was very good, but
there were many difficulties
in getting food and water
and that the people were
not very friendly.

3. 1. 1911

